GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2788
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2001
PROCUREMENT OF WAGONS
BASUDEB ACHARIA;SUNIL KHAN

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his ministry has procured only 7500 wagons instead of 20,000 wagons last year because of reduced demand for traffic;

(b) if so, the basis for such assessment of reduced traffic;

(c) whether balanced and logical view is to maintain status quo-ante and procure 20,000 wagons this year also;

(d) if so, the steps taken to procure the 20,000 wagons during the current year; and

(e) the orders of wagons placed with West Bengal?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL)

(a) to (e) No, Sir. An order of 21225 wagons in terms of four wheeler units (FWUs) was placed on wagon industry for 2000-2001.Out of the above, orders for 16122.5 FWUs were placed on wagon manufacturing units located in West Bengal.

Requirement of wagons is assessed on the basis of targetted freight traffic for the year, expected wagon utilisation index and replacement requirements for the year.

For 2001-02, a budgetary provision for acquisition of 23000 FWUs has been made out of which 17000 FWUs are to be acquired under Railway's own resources whereas remaining 6000 FWUsare to be acquired under Own Your Wagon Scheme(OYWS)/Build-On-Lease-Transfer(BOLT) scheme. At present there is no demand under OYWS/BOLT.Wagon industry has an outstanding workload of about 10000 FWUs as on 01.4.2001 including 2460 FWUs ordersunder +30% option clause against 2000-01 contracts. Another 2000 FWUs hasbeen ordered on Railway workshops. Out of the 2460 FWUs,a quantity of 1620 FWUs was released on wagon manufacturing units located in West Bengal. Apart from this, units in West Bengal were having an outstanding load of 6235 FWUs. Further ordering out of 17000 FWUs for the year is under consideration.